Schemes/programmes for promotion of Science and Technology

2216. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the centrally sponsored schemes and programmes for development and promotion of Science and Technology under implementation in the country, particularly in rural areas;

(b) the details of funds allotted to each State and Union Territory for these schemes during the last three years; and

(c) the details of funds utilised by them and the achievements made so far in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Several central schemes and programmes are in operation for development and promotion of Science and Technology in the Rural Areas nemely Science & Technology Application for Rural Development, Science & Technology Application for Weaker Sections, Science and Technology for Women, S&T for Stategic Needs of Scheduled Castes under Special Component Plan, Empowerment of Tribal Population through S&T under Tribal Sub Plan, Bio-technology based programme for Rural Areas and Bio-technology based programme for women. Support is also provided to the Councils/Departments of Science and Technology of the States. Apart from these, schemes on Science Communication and Popularization and Natural Resources Data Management System are being implemented through research or academic institutions and science based voluntary organisation in rural areas.

(b) No State-wise fund is allocated for these schemes.

(c) Does not arise.

Forecast by IMD

2217. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department has forecast below normal rainfall this year;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to meet the situation; and

(c) whether State Governments have also been apprised of the key situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir. This year Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) introduced new models which have made it possible for Long Rang Forecast of monsoon to be given in two stages. The forecast issued on 16th April 2003 with an 8 Parameter model using data upto March was that the monsoon season rainfall over the country as a whole was likely to be 96% ± 5% of Long Period Average (LPA) and that there was a 39% probability of the rainfall being below normal (90-97% of LPA) However, the IMD forecast update issued on 9th July, 2003 with a 10 parameter model using data upto June was that the monsoon season rainfall over country as a whole was likely to be 98% ±4% of LPA and there was a 43% probability of the rainfall being near normal (98-102% of LPA). IMD also indicated that rainfall for July 2003 for the country as a whole would be 102% ±9% of LPA.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Financial irregularities in CSIR and DBT

2218. DR. VIJYA MALLYA:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Audit Report for the year 2003 by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has brought out several financial and other irregularities in the functioning of organization such as CSIR and Department of Bio-technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have already taken action or propose to take action to rectify the situation; and